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6-8-03**BY FAX****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of:	Stein <i>et al.</i>	Confirmation No.:	7248
Serial No.:	09/593,288	Art Unit:	1652
Filed:	June 13, 2000	Examiner:	Y. Pak
For:	Mitogen-Activated Protein Kinase Kinase MEK6 and Variants Thereof	Attorney Docket No.:	10624-021-999

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Advisory Action, dated April 8, 2003, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, please consider the remarks below in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit concurrently herewith (a) a Petition to Extend Time accompanied by the appropriate fee; (b) Exhibit A, a redline version of the amended claims; and (c) Exhibit C, a copy of all pending claims.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

23. (twice amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising a variant of the amino acid sequence provided in SEQ ID NO:2 that differs from SEQ ID NO:2 at 10% or less of the amino acid residues, wherein said polypeptide is capable of phosphorylating a p38 substrate.

24. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 23 wherein the ability of said polypeptide to stimulate p38 phosphorylation is not substantially diminished as compared to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence provided in SEQ ID NO:2.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office by facsimile transmission on June 4, 2003 to facsimile telephone number (703) 746-3173 and (703) 872-9307.

Anthony M. Insogna by: Jaqueline Benn
Anthony M. Insogna 32,203 Reg. No. 43,492
(Reg. No.)